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PROPOSED CALENDAR OF CONFERENCES OF ECLAC FOR THE PERIOD 1994-1996

Note by the secretariat

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INTRODUCTION

During the sessions of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), which are held every two years, the Commission considers and adopts the calendar of intergovernmental meetings for the following biennium, bearing in mind the various mandates issued by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and ECLAC, the availability of resources and other relevant factors.

In August 1987, during the course of the in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields, the Commission devoted a meeting of the Committee of the Whole to an analysis of the intergovernmental and conference structure of ECLAC.

At the conclusion of the debate, the nineteenth session of the Committee of the Whole adopted resolution 489(PLEN.19) on this subject (see annex 1). As regards the intergovernmental structure and —more relevant for purposes of this document— the conference structure of the Commission, resolution 489(PLEN.19) recommended, inter alia, that the current institutional structure of ECLAC and its system (which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES) and the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)) should be maintained.

The twenty-fourth session of the Commission, held at Santiago, Chile, from 8 to 15 April 1992, considered the document entitled "Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 1992-1994. Note by the secretariat" (LC/G.1709(SES.24/7)). Following the consideration of this item, the Commission adopted resolution 525(XXIV), "Calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 1992-1994". In addition to the regular, statutory meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, ECLAC approved the holding of the following meetings: Meeting of Government Experts on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, preparatory to the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, held in Saint Lucia from 6 to 9 October 1992; Third Regional Conference on Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean, held at Santiago, Chile, from 23 to 25 November 1992; Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at San José, Costa Rica, from 18 to 22 January 1993; and Latin American and Caribbean Regional Conference on Population and Development, held at Mexico City from 29 April to 4 May 1993. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/82, which proclaimed 1994 as International Year of the Family, ECLAC organized a regional meeting on that subject, which was held at Cartagena, Colombia, from 9 to 14 August 1993.

I. MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Annex 2 of this document contains a list of the statutory meetings of ECLAC and its subsidiary bodies, together with the date of establishment and legislative basis of each body, its membership, the periodicity of its meetings, its main sphere of competence and its mandates and terms of reference. The purpose of this table is to list in diagram form the statutory intergovernmental meetings of ECLAC and the more informal meetings such as seminars, symposia, round-table discussions and other meetings of experts convened by the Executive Secretary pursuant to the work programme approved by the member Governments.

In addition to the statutory meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, ECLAC is sometimes called upon by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly to organize regional preparatory meetings for world conferences of the United Nations. For the biennium 1994-1996, the regional commissions have been mandated to organize regional meetings in preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, to be held at Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995. Moreover, at the Third Regional Conference on Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC was requested to organize the Fourth Regional Conference on Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean. In relation to the World Summit for Social Development and in accordance with General Assembly resolution 47/92, which requests that preparations for the Summit reflect an integrated approach to economic and social development, this item has been placed on the agenda of the twenty-fifth session of ECLAC (item 5).

Sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean

Pursuant to the mandates of the Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development, adopted at Havana in 1977, meetings of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference have been held regularly at least once a year. The eighteenth meeting of the Presiding Officers is scheduled for late June or early July 1994; the nineteenth will be held on 23 September 1994, immediately prior to the sixth session of the Regional Conference, which will take place at Mar del Plata from 26 to 30 September 1994 and will serve as a preparatory meeting for the World Conference on Women to be held at Beijing in September 1995. On these occasions, the Presiding Officers will analyse the situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean in the 1990s and will adopt the new programme of action that updates regional mandates on this subject.

The twentieth meeting of the Presiding Officers will be held in mid-1995, for the purpose of promoting regional preparatory activities for the Fourth World Conference on Women (see annex 3 to this document).

Fourth Regional Conference on Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Regional Conference on Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean was initiated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as part of its regional project RLA/86/004. The first and second regional conferences on this issue were held in 1988 at Cartagena, Colombia, and in 1990 at Quito, Ecuador.

During the Second Regional Conference, held at Quito from 20 to 23 November 1990, the member Governments adopted a series of decisions of both a procedural and a substantive nature. Among these was an agreement to give continuity to the series of meetings on poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean. It was recommended that the conference should be held biennially, under the aegis of the host Government, which would convene and organize the meeting. At the Quito meeting, it was also decided to accept the offer of the Government of Chile to host the Third Regional Conference on Poverty, which was held at Santiago, Chile, from 23 to 25 November 1992 and for which ECLAC acted as technical secretariat.

On that occasion, the Governments assigned to ECLAC by common accord the mandate of acting as technical secretariat, as it does in other areas in which it organizes intergovernmental meetings. They therefore committed themselves to supporting the Commission's efforts to obtain the resources needed to carry out the mandates of the Third Regional Conference on Poverty. Among the topics suggested for discussion at the Fourth Regional Conference were the new role of the State, ways of restructuring social services and financing social programmes, social security systems, policy targeting and possible modalities for the exercise of social authority.

The participating Governments welcomed the generous offer of the Government of Mexico to host the Fourth Regional Conference on Poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean and to coordinate its organization with the technical secretariat.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ASPECTS

Venue of ECLAC meetings

Resolution 40/243 of the United Nations General Assembly (see annex 4 to this document) contains provisions on the meetings of the United Nations system and, in particular, of the regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies.

The resolution reaffirms the general principle that, in drawing up the schedule of conferences and meetings, United Nations bodies shall plan to meet at their respective established headquarters, except in the case of regular sessions of the regional commissions and meetings of their subsidiary bodies, which may be held away from their headquarters when the commission concerned so decides, subject, in the case of regular sessions, to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

When ECLAC considers convening its next session away from its headquarters, the corresponding proposal must be accompanied by an analysis of the financial implications of such a change of location. Once approved by ECLAC, the proposal must be submitted to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly for their consideration and approval.

In the case of proposals to hold meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission away from its headquarters, the Commission must first analyse the financial implications of each meeting. It is important to note that, in such instances, the additional costs involved in a change of venue are not chargeable to the host country, as is the case with meetings other than sessions of the Commission or of its subsidiary bodies, although host countries usually make significant contributions in kind which reduce the cost to the United Nations.

The principle of rotating the venue of the biennial session of the Commission, which is set forth in rule 2 of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, was discussed in depth during the twenty-first session of the Commission (Mexico City, 17-25 April 1986). After weighing the advantages and disadvantages of rotation, including the financial aspects thereof, and taking into account the fact that ECLAC headquarters in Santiago does not have the necessary physical facilities for hosting a regular session, the Commission adopted by consensus resolution 480(XXI), which reaffirmed the principle of rotating the venue of the regular sessions of ECLAC. This resolution also reaffirmed the practice of having the host country provide the necessary facilities and local transport, as well as document reproduction equipment, materials and supplies for the conference and local staff. In addition, the resolution recommended to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly that the regular budget of the United Nations for each biennium should include the resources needed for holding the regular sessions of ECLAC in the city in which the Commission's headquarters is located, and that any additional expenditures should be absorbed by the regular budget of ECLAC.

In 1992, the Government of Colombia offered to host the twenty-fifth session of ECLAC. The Commission accepted this invitation, and in July of that year, the Economic and Social Council adopted decision 1992/291 stipulating that the twenty-fifth session of ECLAC would be held at Cartagena, Colombia, in 1994.

Should the Commission decide to hold the twenty-sixth session away from ECLAC headquarters, it would again be required to secure the approval of the Economic and Social Council.

III. CONCLUSIONS

Pursuant to the mandates mentioned above, it is incumbent upon the twenty-fifth session of the Commission to consider and approve the calendar of conferences of the Commission for the period 1994-1996. To this end, the secretariat has prepared a table showing the proposed schedule of meetings for those years, including the statutory meetings of ECLAC and its subsidiary bodies (see annex 5 to this document).

It will be noted that the next session of the Commission, which continues to be the focal point for all the other meetings of the ECLAC system, has been set for early 1996 at a venue which has yet to be determined. The twenty-first session of the Committee of the Whole will be held in 1995, probably at United Nations Headquarters in New York, and the Committee of High-level Government Experts will continue to meet once a year in fulfilment of the mandates entrusted to it.

The regional commissions have been mandated to convene regional preparatory meetings for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace (Beijing, 4-15 September 1995). To take full advantage of available resources, the regional preparatory meeting will be held in conjunction with the sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean. In view of the Argentine Government's kind invitation, it is proposed that this joint meeting be held at Mar del Plata from 26 to 30 September 1994.

In considering the calendar of conferences, the representatives of member States will have to bear in mind that it may prove necessary to add unprogrammed meetings to the calendar, since ECLAC, like other regional commissions, receives mandates from senior bodies to hold meetings on specific topics. It also becomes necessary at times, owing to unforeseen circumstances, to change the date or location of a meeting; it is therefore suggested that the Executive Secretary of ECLAC be allowed a measure of flexibility in applying the calendar that is approved.

Annex 1

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RESOLUTION 489(PLEN.19). INTERGOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (ECLAC)

The Committee of the Whole of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 40/237 and 41/213 on the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind decision 1987/112 of the Economic and Social Council to establish a Special Commission to carry out an in-depth study of the United Nations intergovernmental structure and functions in the economic and social fields, and in particular paragraph i) of that decision, which requests all subsidiary bodies in the economic and social sectors to submit their views and proposals on achieving the objectives envisaged in recommendation 8 of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts to Review the Efficiency of the Administrative and Financial Functioning of the United Nations,

Noting the view of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly to the effect that the suitability of the activities of the regional commissions is a matter to be determined primarily by the member States concerned and that the regional commissions should be consulted on any action to be taken in this regard,

Bearing in mind the importance of General Assembly resolution 32/197, which was adopted after an in-depth evaluation of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations and contains the most comprehensive statement of the General Assembly on the regional commissions,

Reaffirming the provisions of ECLAC resolution 431(XIX) on the implementation of the mandates embodied in resolution 32/197 and the guidelines on co-ordination between organizations and agencies of the United Nations system,

Recalling also resolution 419(PLEN.14), on the rationalization of the institutional structure and the pattern of meetings of the ECLAC system, by which the Committee of the Whole, following a careful study, decided to "maintain the existing fundamental institutional structure of the ECLAC system", with certain adjustments,

Convinced of the effectiveness of the multidisciplinary and multisectoral regional approach which has characterized the work of the United Nations regional commissions and that in this connection, the activities and programme of work of ECLAC approved by the Commission are fully consistent with the priorities of its member countries in their efforts to achieve the economic and social development of the region,

Also bearing in mind that the basic function of ECLAC is to serve as principal general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system in Latin America and the Caribbean, for which purpose it is necessary to strengthen its operation as a source of concepts and guidelines which the governments of the region can use in the light of their specific situations,

Convinced that in order to raise the level of economic activity it is necessary that these concepts and guidelines be aimed at the search for alternative development strategies which permit the region to reinforce its economic and social development in the context of a changing international environment and to reaffirm its autonomy,

1. Affirms the need that the restructuring of the economic and social sectors resulting from the process initiated in response to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 41/213 should:

a) Intensify the regional and multidisciplinary approach within the secretariat;

b) Strengthen the role of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as the principal centre within the United Nations system for the general economic and social development of the region;

c) Reinforce the Commission's activities aimed at promoting effective co-ordination of the work of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system in Latin America and the Caribbean; and

d) Strengthen also its capacity to contribute to the analysis of the region's development problems and the consideration of economic and social development strategies and policy options to serve as a guide for the countries;

2. Emphasizes the important role that ECLAC is called upon to play in the search for alternative development strategies which help the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean to secure a more beneficial form of participation by the region in the international economic system;

3. Recommends that the current institutional structure of ECLAC and its system (which includes ILPES and CELADE) be maintained, but decides to abolish the sessional committees on water and on human settlements —topics which will henceforth be dealt with in the same way as other aspects of the Commission's work programme at each session— with a view to rationalizing still further its mechanisms, procedures and meetings;

4. Emphasizes the high priority which should be assigned in the Commission's activities to work in support of regional and interregional co-operation efforts, and to this end requests the Executive Secretary to intensify the co-operation the Secretariat has been extending to regional integration and co-operation agencies, and to continue to accord a high level of attention to collaboration with other regional economic commissions of the United Nations system in support of technical and economic co-operation between the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and those of other developing regions;

5. Emphasizes also the importance of the work performed by the Commission's divisions and units and by its joint programmes with the global organizations and agencies of the system: an approach which constitutes an appropriate way of avoiding duplication and permits effective co-ordination of the activities of the Organization's various bodies;

6. Stresses the importance of maintaining close co-operation between ECLAC and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and further promoting the participation of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the regional activities carried out by the two organizations;

7. Decides to transmit this resolution, together with the relevant section of the report of the nineteenth session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC and, as a background paper, the document entitled "Intergovernmental structure and functions of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean"* to the Special Commission of the Economic and Social Council on the In-depth Study of the United Nations Intergovernmental Structure and Functions in the Economic and Social Fields, and requests the Executive Secretary of ECLAC to report to the Commission at its next session on the application of the guidelines contained in this resolution;

8. Requests the Special Commission, aside from taking appropriate measures to put the provisions of the preceding paragraphs into effect, and bearing in mind the new responsibilities of the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination laid down in General Assembly resolution 41/213, to examine ways of strengthening the intergovernmental relations between the regional commissions and the Committee for Programme and Co-ordination in order to ensure that the Committee considers the regional commissions' decisions and priorities in the economic and social sector transmitted by the Secretariat through its biennial work programme and medium-term plan and also permits the regional commissions to provide inputs for the global policy-making processes of the competent United Nations organs and to participate fully in the implementation of the relevant policy and programme decisions taken by those organs.

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* LC/L.421(PLEN.19/2).

Annex 2

MAIN BODIES AND MEETINGS OF THE ECLAC SYSTEM

Main intergovernmental bodies and meetings	Date set up	Legislative basis	Membership	Periodicity	Main sphere of competence/aims/terms of reference
Commission, sessions	1948	Economic and Social Council Res.106(VI)	All ECLAC member States and associate members	Every two years	All economic and social issues in accordance with article 1 of the Commission's terms of reference. See also rule 8 of the rules of procedure relating to the provisional agenda for any session
Committee of the Whole, regular and special sessions	1952	ECOSOC Res.106(VI) (para.3)	All ECLAC member States and associate members	Meets in years in which no Commission session is held. Special sessions convened by the Executive Secretary when necessary	Since it was set up, the Committee of the Whole has held 34 sessions: 19 regular and 15 extraordinary. At the regular sessions, items similar to those dealt with at the sessions of the Commission are discussed. In accordance with the agreement adopted by the Commission in 1969," extraordinary sessions are convened by the Executive Secretary when it is necessary to deal with some question which calls for an urgent decision on the part of the Commission, in line with the procedure set forth in rule 1 b) of the rules of procedure
ECLAC sessional committees	1948	Rule 53 of ECLAC rules of procedure	All ECLAC member States and associate members	As required during sessions of the Commission	The Commission may assign to sessional committees any matter within its sphere of competence that is not already assigned to an existing body in the system. At the twenty-second session, there will be a sessional committee on technical cooperation among developing countries and regions
Regional intergovernmental conferences	-	Generally resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, ECLAC or its Committee of the Whole	All ECLAC member States and associate members	As required	Specific issues. These are often preparatory meetings of a regional nature prior to world conferences of the United Nations on the issue
Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean	1977	Decision adopted by consensus in November 1977 by the Committee of the Whole at its eleventh extraordinary session	All ECLAC member States and associate members	At least every three years	Regional Plan of Action for the Integration of Women into Latin American Economic and Social Development

Main intergovernmental bodies and meetings	Date set up	Legislative basis	Membership	Periodicity	Main sphere of competence/aims/terms of reference
Ad hoc meetings of government-appointed experts	-	Rule 24 of rules of procedure. ECLAC resolution 401(XVIII) and other decisions	All ECLAC member States and associate members	As required	Specific issues stemming from the work programme adopted by the Commission or programmes coordinated with other intergovernmental bodies
Seminars, forums, round tables and other meetings convened by the Executive Secretary pursuant to mandates from Governments	-	Rule 24 of rules of procedure. Various ECLAC resolutions including 401(XVIII)	Experts invited by the Secretariat according to the issue and available resources	As required	Specific issues stemming from the work programme adopted by the Commission or programmes coordinated with other intergovernmental bodies
Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	1971	Res. 310(XIV)	Developing countries members of ECLAC	At a suitable date, at least once a year, normally before the session of the Commission or as required	To act as a forum for analysing the various aspects involved in the implementation and appraisal of the objectives of the International Development Strategy in Latin America (Res.310(XIV), para. 5)
CEGAN (population) CEGAN (industrialization) CEGAN (science and technology)	1975	ECLAC resolution 357(XVI)	Developing countries members of ECLAC		To deal with population, industrialization and science and technology at specialized meetings, in conformity with the Commission's mandates. ECLAC resolution 357(XVI)
Regional Council for Planning (ILPES)	1974	Res. 340(AC.66) Eighth extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole	Countries of the Latin American region	As required	1. To act as the guiding government body for ILPES activities in the matters entrusted to it 2. To serve as a consultative body to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC in planning matters 3. To review the ILPES work programme
Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee	1975	ECLAC Res. 358(XVI) CDCC Constituent Declaration, Functions and Rules of Procedure (E/CEPAL/1022)	Countries within the sphere of action of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean and Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and other Caribbean countries attaining independence	Once a year. Special sessions may be convened by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC	CDCC rules of procedure, chapter II para. 10: "To act as a coordinating body for whatever activities relating to development and cooperation may be agreed upon and to serve as an advisory and consultative body to the Executive Secretary of ECLAC in respect of Caribbean issues and circumstances"

* E/CN.12/841/Rev.1, para. 490.

Annex 3

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 47/95. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 44/77 of 8 December 1989, in which, inter alia, it endorsed and reaffirmed the importance of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women* for the period up to the year 2000 and set out measures for their immediate implementation and for the overall achievement of the interrelated goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

Recalling also its resolution 46/98 of 16 December 1991,

Taking into consideration the resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on issues relating to women since the adoption of its resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987,

Reaffirming its determination to encourage the full participation of women in economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs and to promote development, cooperation and international peace,

Conscious of the important and constructive contribution to the improvement of the status of women made by the Commission on the Status of Women, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned,

Concerned that the resources available to the programme on the advancement of women of the United Nations Secretariat are insufficient to ensure adequate support to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and effective implementation of other aspects of the programme, especially the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in 1995,

Welcoming the completion of work on the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women by the inter-sessional working group of the Commission on the Status of Women,

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* Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Recognizing the advancement of women as one of the priorities of the Organization for the biennium 1992-1993,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;*

2. Reaffirms paragraph 2 of section I of the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, which called for an improved pace in the implementation of the Strategies in the crucial last decade of the twentieth century, since the cost to societies of failing to implement the Strategies would be high in terms of slowed economic and social development, inadequate use of human resources and reduced progress for society as a whole;

3. Urges Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to implement the recommendations;

4. Calls again upon Member States to give priority to policies and programmes relating to the subtheme "Employment, health and education", in particular to literacy, for self-reliance of women and the mobilization of indigenous resources, as well as to issues relating to the role of women in economic and political decision-making, population, the environment and information;

5. Reaffirms the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women, and calls upon it to continue promoting the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000, based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme "Employment, health and education", and urges all relevant bodies of the United Nations system to cooperate effectively with the Commission in this task;

6. Requests the Commission, when considering the priority theme relating to development during its thirty-seventh and subsequent sessions, to ensure its early contribution to the preparatory work of forthcoming major international conferences such as the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held in 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in 1994, the World Conference on Women, to be held in 1995, and the proposed World Summit on Social Development to be held in 1995, and to address the impact of technologies on women;

7. Also requests the Commission to give special attention to women in developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, who suffer disproportionately from the effects of the global economic crisis and the heavy external debt burden, and to recommend further measures for the equalization of opportunity and for integration of these women into the development process when considering the priority theme of development;

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* A/47/377.

8. Endorses Economic and Social Council decision 1992/272 of 30 July 1992 concerning the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, in which the Council took note of Commission on the Status of Women resolution 36/8 of 20 March 1992,* and expresses its appreciation to the Government of China for its offer to act as host for the World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to take into account section A, paragraph 6, of Commission resolution 36/8 when appointing the Secretary-General of the Conference;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that appropriate staff from the secretariats of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Commission on the Status of Women participate in the preparatory process for the World Conference on Human Rights, as well as in the Conference itself, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985;

11. Recommends the further development of methods of compilation and data collection in areas of concern identified by the Commission and urges Member States to improve and broaden collection for gender desegregated statistical information and make it available to the relevant bodies of the United Nations system with a view to preparing, in all official languages, as a background document for the Fourth World Conference on Women, an updated edition of The World's Women 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics;**

12. Emphasizes, in the framework of the Forward-looking Strategies, the importance of the total integration of women in the development process, bearing in mind the specific and urgent needs of the developing countries, and calls upon Member States to establish specific management and decision-making positions in their countries;

13. Emphasizes once again the need to give urgent attention to redressing socio-economic inequities at the national and international levels as a necessary step towards the full realization of the goals and objectives of the Forward-looking Strategies;

14. Urges the Commission to complete its work on the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and to submit it for information to the World Conference on Human Rights;

15. Strongly urges that particular attention be given by the relevant United Nations organizations and Governments to the special needs of women with disabilities, to elderly women and also to women in vulnerable situations such as migrant and refugee women and children;

16. Endorses the recommendation contained in Commission resolution 36/8 that regional preparatory conferences include in their agendas the issue of women in public life, as well as the request that the Secretary-General include information on women in public life in the preparation of the priority theme on peace: "women in international decision-making", for the Commission at its thirty-ninth session in 1995;

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* Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 4 (E/1992/24), chap. I, sect. C.

** United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.3.

17. Welcomes the recommendations on women, environment and development in all programme areas, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, in particular chapter 24 of Agenda 21, "Global action for women towards sustainable and equitable development";*

18. Urges organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations to ensure active participation of women in the planning and implementation of programmes for sustainable development, and requests Governments to consider nominating women as representatives to the Commission on Sustainable Development;

19. Requests the Secretary-General, in formulating the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001 and in integrating the Forward-looking Strategies into activities mandated by the General Assembly, to pay particular attention to specific sectoral themes that cut across the three objectives, equality, development and peace, and include, in particular, literacy, education, health, population, the impact of technology on the environment and its effect on women and the full participation of women in decision-making, and to continue to assist Governments in strengthening their national machineries for the advancement of women;

20. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue updating the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development,** bearing in mind its importance, placing particular emphasis on the adverse impact of the difficult economic situation affecting the majority of developing countries, particularly on the condition of women, giving special attention to worsening conditions for the incorporation of women into the labour force, as well as the impact of reduced expenditures for social services on women's opportunities for education, health and child care, and to submit a preliminary version of the updated World Survey on the Role of Women in Development to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, in 1993 and a final version in 1994;

21. Requests Governments, when presenting candidatures for vacancies in the Secretariat, in particular at the decision-making level, to give priority to women's candidatures, and requests the Secretary-General in reviewing these candidatures to give special consideration to female candidates from underrepresented and unrepresented developing countries;

22. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to report periodically to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, on activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Forward-looking Strategies;

23. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide for the existing weekly radio programmes on women in the regular budget of the United Nations, making adequate provisions for broadcasts in different languages, and to develop the focal point for issues relating to women in the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, which, in concert with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, should provide a more effective public information programme relating to the advancement of women;

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* Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26 (vol. III)).

** United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.IV.2.

24. Further requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, an assessment of recent developments that are relevant to the priority themes to be considered at the subsequent session of the Commission and to transmit to the Commission a summary of relevant views expressed by delegations during the debate in the Assembly;

25. Recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women, as the preparatory body for the Fourth World Conference on Women, should consider at its next session the relevance of the resolutions drafted at the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to the Fourth World Conference on Women in order to avoid duplication of work, keeping in mind that those resolutions were neither adopted by the Conference nor considered by the General Assembly;

26. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on measures taken to implement the present resolution;

27. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the state of preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women under the item entitled "Advancement of women";

28. Decides to consider the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000 at its forty-eighth session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

Annex 4

GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 40/243.
PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 1202 (XII) of 13 December 1957, 1851 (XVII) of 19 December 1962, 1987 (XVIII) of 17 December 1963, 2116 (XX) of 21 December 1965, 2239 (XXI) of 20 December 1966, 2361 (XXII) of 19 December 1967, 2478 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, 2609 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, 2693 (XXV) of 11 December 1970, 2834 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971, 2960 (XXVII) of 13 December 1972, 3350 (XXIX) and 3351 (XXIX) of 18 December 1974, 3491 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, 31/140, section I, of 17 December 1976, 38/32 C of 25 November 1983 and 39/68 C of 13 December 1984,

I

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences,

1. Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Committee on Conferences;

2. Approves the draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for the biennium 1986-1987 as submitted by the Committee on Conferences;

3. Authorizes the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 1986-1987 that may become necessary as a result of action and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fortieth session;

4. Reaffirms the general principle that, in drawing up the schedule of conferences and meetings, United Nations bodies shall plan to meet at their respective established headquarters, with the following exceptions:

a) The regular sessions of the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme shall be held alternately at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

b) The sessions of the International Law Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

c) The sessions of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law may be held, subject to the provision in General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI), section II, paragraph 6, of 17 December 1966, alternately at United Nations Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Vienna;

d) The second regular session of the Economic and Social Council may be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva provided that the closing date falls at least six weeks before the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly;

e) The functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council shall meet at their established headquarters unless the Council designates another place to achieve a more rational pattern of the work programme, taking into account any recommendation of the commission concerned and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

f) The regular sessions of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, as well as meetings of their subsidiary bodies, may be held away from their headquarters when the commission concerned so decides, subject, in the case of regular sessions of the commissions, to the approval of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

g) The International Civil Service Commission shall hold its regular annual session at United Nations Headquarters and, if more than one session is required in any one year, may accept an invitation from one of its participating organizations to hold its other session or sessions at the headquarters of that particular organization;

h) The sessions of the Legal Sub-Committee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space shall be held alternately at United Nations Headquarters and the United Nations Office at Geneva;

i) The Conference on Disarmament shall meet at the United Nations Office at Geneva;

5. Decides that United Nations bodies may hold sessions away from their established headquarters when a Government issuing an invitation for a session to be held within its territory has agreed to defray, after consultation with the Secretary-General as to their nature and possible extent, the actual additional costs directly or indirectly involved;

6. Reaffirms its instruction to all its subsidiary organs to complete their reports for the following session of the General Assembly no later than 1 September and, where necessary, to report to the Assembly in addenda to the reports of the organs concerned any activity undertaken after the adoption of such reports;

7. Decides that no subsidiary organ of the General Assembly may meet at United Nations Headquarters during a regular session of the Assembly unless explicitly authorized by the Assembly;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide interpretation services for informal meetings on an ad hoc basis in accordance with established practice;

9. Authorizes the Secretary-General to apply maximum overprogramming of meetings whenever possible to achieve better utilization of conference resources;

10. Requests the Committee on Conferences and the Secretary-General to take account of the following principles in drawing up the draft calendar of conferences and meetings:

a) The biennial calendar of conferences and meetings approved by the General Assembly shall govern the meetings programme during the period concerned;

b) All United Nations meetings shall be conducted within the resources allocated by the General Assembly for that purpose;

c) Between sessions of the General Assembly, departures from the calendar may, in special or unusual circumstances, be approved by the Committee on Conferences provided that changes affecting the subsequent year of the biennium shall be approved by the Assembly;

d) Subsidiary organs of the General Assembly shall not, without the approval of the Assembly, create new standing bodies or ad hoc sessional or inter-sessional bodies that require additional resources, and other principal organs of the United Nations should make similar decisions with regard to their respective subsidiary bodies, if they have not already done so;

e) An adequate interval of time, to be determined by the body concerned, shall be allowed between sessions of a body to permit Member States to derive maximum benefit from the activities and to provide sufficient time for the preparation of future activities;

f) United Nations bodies shall meet at their respective established headquarters, subject to the exceptions to this principle approved by the General Assembly;

g) The capacity of the documentation services of the Secretariat to process and issue in time the documentation required for the sessions of all scheduled organs should be taken into account;

h) No more than one special conference of the United Nations shall be convened at the same time;

i) In any given year, no more than five special conferences should be convened, unless the General Assembly specifically decides otherwise;

11. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure the most rational and effective use of all United Nations conference centres and facilities;

12. Requests the Committee on Conferences to continue its periodic examination of the rules governing conference planning.

II

1. Urges all United Nations bodies to increase their efforts to ensure that their requests for conference-servicing resources correspond accurately to their requirements;

2. Further urges those bodies to plan their work well in advance in order to make full use of the conference-servicing resources allocated to them and so that any unused conference-servicing resources can be reassigned to ensure their most effective utilization;

3. Requests subsidiary organs of the General Assembly to include in their reports to the Assembly a statement on the progress made in response to the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 39/68 B of 13 December 1984 on the rational and efficient utilization of conference-servicing resources;

4. Urges intergovernmental bodies reporting to the Second Committee of the General Assembly that have not yet adjusted their meeting cycles to conform to that Committee's biennial programme of work to do so as soon as possible;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to review the composition and frequency of planning missions for meetings and conferences held away from Headquarters, in particular those sent to cities where United Nations conference facilities already exist;

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Conferences at its substantive session of 1986 on the results of that review concerning planning missions sent in 1985 and, as far as possible, in 1986.

III

1. Decides that the Committee on Conferences should review the question of the provision of summary records at its substantive session in 1986;

2. Also decides that the present experimental arrangements for summary records, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 37/14 C of 16 November 1982, should remain in effect until the Assembly, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences, takes further action.

Annex 5

CALENDAR OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES OF ECLAC FOR THE PERIOD 1994-1996

Year	Title	Place and date	Legislative authority	Source of financing
1994	Nineteenth session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	Santiago 1-4 March	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1994	Twenty-fifth session of ECLAC	Cartagena, Colombia 20-27 April	ECLAC resolution 532(XXIV); Economic and Social Council decision 1992/291	ECLAC regular budget
1994	Fifteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	Aruba 22-24 May a/	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1994	Regional Council for Planning (ILPES)	b/	ECLAC resolution 340(AC.66)	ILPES budget
1994	Sixth session of the Regional Conference on the Integration of Women into the Economic and Social Development of Latin America and the Caribbean	Mar del Plata 26-30 September	The Conference was established as a permanent subsidiary body of ECLAC by a decision taken at the eleventh extraordinary session of the Committee of the Whole (E/CEPAL/AC.71.4)	
1995	Sixteenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	b/	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1995	Twenty-first session of the ECLAC Committee of the Whole	b/	ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1996	Twentieth session of the Committee of High-level Government Experts (CEGAN)	b/	ECLAC resolutions 310(XIV); 419(PLEN.14); 422(XIX), para. 204; 425(XIX) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1996	Seventeenth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)	b/	ECLAC resolutions 358(XVI); 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget
1996	Twenty-sixth session of ECLAC	b/	ECLAC resolutions 419(PLEN.14) and 489(PLEN.19)	ECLAC regular budget

a/ Date to be confirmed.
b/ Place and date to be decided.